

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/CA 03/01003

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G06K19/077

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, COMPENDEX, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| A | DE 42 20 194 A (STOWASSER HERBERT) 23 December 1993 (1993-12-23) abstract column 2, line 15 - line 20 column 9, line 27 - column 11, line 60 figures 1,2 | 1,23 |
| A | DE 43 07 064 A (AMATECH GMBH & CO KG) 8 September 1994 (1994-09-08) abstract column 2, line 5 - line 32 column 3, line 14 - line 25 column 6, line 2 - column 8, line 35 figures --- -/-- | 1,23 |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

20 November 2003

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02/12/2003

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
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| A | US 2001/054230 A1 (FINN DAVID ET AL) 27 December 2001 (2001-12-27) paragraph '0005! paragraph '0071! - paragraph '0075!; figures 4-7 ----- | 1,23 |

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